

Message Text

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SUBJECT: DC PRE-CONGRESSES IN SICILY, REGION-WIDE RESULTS

REF: PALERMO 0081 NOTAL

1. SUMMARY: THE RESULTS OF THE PRE-CONGRESSES HELD IN SICILY IN JANUARY RAISED THE CURTAIN ON A STRUGGLE BETWEEN THE PRO-CONFRONTO DOROTEI OF MINISTER ANTONINO GULLOTTI AND THE ANTI-DIALOGUE FANFANIANI OF MINISTER GIOVANNI GIOIA, WITH THE TWO-PRONGED IMPEGNO DEMOCRATICO FACTION BEING WOODED BY THE MAINLINERS. ON FEBRUARY 21-22 IN PALERMO THOSE DELEGATES ELECTED DURING THESE PRE-CONGRESSES WILL CHOOSE SICILY'S DC DELEGATION TO THE MARCH NATIONAL PARTY CONGRESS. LATER IN THE YEAR, THESE SAME DELEGATES WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE ELECTION OF A NEW DC REGIONAL LEADERSHIP. END OF SUMMARY.

2. ON FEBRUARY 21-22 (REFTEL), THE SICILIAN DC WILL ELECT ITS DELEGATES TO THE FORTHCOMING NATIONAL PARTY CONGRESS. DURING JANUARY, THE DC HELD SECTIONAL PRE-CONGRESSES. FOLLOWING ARE THE REGION-WIDE RESULTS DIVIDED BY NATIONAL ALIGNMENT FOR READY IDENTIFICATION:

(A) MORO-ZACCAGNINI-RUMOR ALIGNMENT: DOROTEI OF MINISTER GULLOTTI, 22.76 PERCENT# FORZE NUOVE, 12.51 PERCENT# MOROTEI, 6.67 PERCENT#

(BASE, 1.92 PERCENT. TOTAL 44 PERCENT OF THE CONGRESSIONAL
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VOTE.

(B) FANFANI-PICCOLI-RUFFINI ALIGNMENT: FANFANIANI, 19.86 PERCENT# DOROTEI OF RUFFINI AND VOLPE, 15.41 PERCENT. TOTAL: 35 PERCENT.

(C) NO-ALIGNED GROUPS: IMPEGNO DEMOCRATICO OF TOURISM UNDESECTARY DRAGO, 9.17 PERCENT# IMPEGNO DEMOCRATICO OF BUDGED UNDERSECRETARY LIMA, 8.67 PERCENT# LOCAL GROUPS 3.03 PERCENT. TOTAL: 21 PERCENT.M

4. THE DECISIONS OF ANTONINO DRAGO AND SALVATORE LIMA WILL BE DECISIVE AS TO WHICH FORCES WILL PREVAIL. ALTHOUGH DRAGO AND LIMA RAN TOGETHER IN THE PRE-CONGRESSES THEY PART COMPANY ON A NATIONAL BASIS: I.E., THE CATANIA-BASED IMPEGNO DEMOCREATICO DRAGO CHAPTE LOOKS TO MINISTER COLOMBO WHILE THE PALERMO-BASED IMPEGNO DEMOCRATICO LIMA CHAPTER LOOKS TO MINISTER ANDREOTTI. WERE BOTH DRAGO AND LIMA TO RALLY TO THE GULLOTTI CAMP, THIS GROUP WOULD COLLECT A 62-PERCENT CONGRESSIONAL MAJORITY. INSTEAD, WERE THEY TO JOIN THE GIOIA CAMP, THE SECOND ALIGNMENT WOULD TOTAL 53 PERCENT. ON THE OTHER HAND, WERE DRAGO AND LIMA TO SPLIT FORCES, THEY WOULD COMPLICATE THE GAME CONSIDERABLY.

5. NOTE: THESE DELEGATES JUST ELECTED IN THE PRE-CONGRESSES ARE GOING TO BE CALLED UPON ON FEBRUARY 21-22 TO ELECT THE SICILIAN DC DELEGATION TO THE NATIONAL PARTY CONGRESS AND LATER IN THE YEAR TO ELECT A NEW REGIONAL COMMITTEE AND A NEW DC REGIONAL SECREATRY.

6. THE ABOVE BREAKDOWN ALREADY OFFERS SOME INDICATION AS TO HOW THE SICILIAN DC APPROACHES THE NATIONAL PARTY CONGRESS AND THE STRUGGLE TOWARD A NEW REGIONAL LEADERSHIP. NEVERTHELESS, THE RESHUFFLING OF POSITIONS WITHIN SICILY'S DC HAS BEEN SO INTRICATE AND VOLATILE THAT IT WOULD BE FOLLY AT THIS STAGE TO ATTEMPT A COMPARISON WITH THE PICTURE THAT EMERGED FROM THE 1973 REGIONAL CONGRESS (PALERMO A-9, 5/21/73). CHIAVARINI

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